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GALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

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Why not call the new river discovered by Col. Koesevelt, Armageddon river. Old Doctor Cook could settle there and make a first rate pilot on that stream.

On May 28 and 29, you are supposed to go out and work on the public roads or send a hand. Most of the counties are responding to the Governor's proclamation with the greatest enthusiasm and there is going to be a lot of work done.

The I. W. W., socialists, suffragists, anarchists, and other unemployed seekers after notoriety seemed to have New York on the run for a while, but pastor Bouck White was given a sentence of six months at hard labor for going into a Baptist church and interrupting the preacher the other day. We have a distinctive name for these kind of people in this part of the country. We call them hell-raisers and the courts have places reserved for each and every one of them.

Captain B. B. Dovenor, of Wheeling, died last week. We can well remember when he was a popular idol. He served in Congress and was one of the brightest men of the State. He was retired to private life, lost his money, and his mind gave way. And finally he departed this life under such circumstances that it must have been truly a blessed release. How often have we seen that a miserable old age is the fate of public men, while men who have not known the spur of ambition round out their lives in peace and safety, with honor, love, obedience and troops of friends. With them old age is "as a lustrous winter, frosty, but kindly."

Senator Moses E. Clapp came a second time to West Virginia and made a great speech to the Progressives in Kanawha county last Friday. He is a great speaker. He is kind of on the order of John the Baptist, and he speaks of a great man by the name of Roosevelt. He declares that the Republican party is rotten at the core and is firmly of the opinion that the Progressives will take over and reform and restore that great party to its former greatness. J. H. Huling presided at the meeting. We do not know how West Virginia Republicans and Progressives will take that statement about being rotten at the core. Some people like their politics a little high.

Senator Chilton made a notable speech on the canal tolls question last week. He is a member of the committee which reported the bill to repeal the tolls for exemption. He said that the question was not well considered when the bill was passed exempting certain vessels and that the plank in the Baltimore platform was never noticed and was never referred to in the West Virginia campaign, which is a fact. He made the point that an act of Congress could not be repealed by arbitration by the Hague tribunal, and that the only thing that would set the matter right is to repeal the act in Congress. Senator Goff is lined up against the repeal as well as the other Republican congressmen from West Virginia, but the Wheeling Intelligencer, which is decidedly the leading Republican newspaper in West Virginia, has been for the repeal of the toll exemption law, and opposes its representatives in Congress more vigorously as the time goes by.

A rigid investigation is going on concerning the terrible explosion in a mine in Raleigh county in which upwards of two hundred able bodied working men were killed. The loss of these men as providers for their families will be met to a great extent by the workman's compensation bill which will take care of and provide for all the widows and children of tender years. Explosions in coal mines are to be counted upon and they have been of more or less common occurrence during all the history of coal mining. Freshly mined coal, especially soft, porous coal, gives off quantities of marsh gas, or fire damp, which when mixed with a certain percent of air, is highly explosive. If the fire damp is more than twenty-five percent of air or less than eight percent there can be no explosion, but between the two, it is very dangerous, especially if coal dust is in the air, and if exploded by a heavy charge of powder. Safety lamps and constant and eternal vigilance are the only safeguards against these explosions. The high grade of steam coal in West Virginia renders our mines particularly susceptible to explosions.

Mellen, who was president of the New Haven railroad for a number of years, testified that upon one occasion he wanted some

favours from the governing body of New York city, so he set aside and dispensed \$1,200,000.00, and secured it. Strange men would present vouchers for large sums of money, such as a ten thousand dollar draw-back, and Mellen would pay in currency and then tear up the draw-back and see that the pieces went down the sewer. This is how the railroad which held the savings of a great number of New England people was managed, and such exposures as this has reacted upon railroad investments generally, in making the public suspicious of the management of great corporations. It may develop that the government will have to go into the railroad business to overcome a universal distrust of the managers of great railroad corporations. In the New Haven case the failure to pay the usual dividend resulted in an untold amount of misery and poverty on the part of a great many persons of very limited means, many of whom have no earning capacity.

We are all getting pretty well educated on Mexican subjects. It is apparent that it is a country of great wealth and possibilities and that it is inhabited by a class of poor, ignorant people who are little better than slaves. The great State of Texas stands out in strong contrast with the miserable country south of the Rio Grande. The stern rock bound coast of Texas, with its educated and prosperous citizens, leading puritanical lives, shows what might have been the fate of Mexico, if the United States in the days of its conquest had taken over all of the territory. If it had, the land would have been held by countless thousands instead of a handful of proprietors and the cause of humanity would have been greatly advanced. It may be possible that the United States may have to see that a fair and just government is established and maintained there, under which men may be given an opportunity to prosper. If this burden be placed by circumstances upon our country, we will be able for the task. It will not entail a great war, but it will be an untold amount of work and worry. It may be that some Horace Greely will in a few years be advising young men to go to Mexico and grow up with the country.

Under the head of "Mules and Juries," George Fitch writes in Collier's as follows:

"A jury is a collection of twelve good men and true, chosen by lot for the purpose of deciding a case of law by chance. The jury system was handed to us by England about the time she was handing us the stamp tax and other precious gifts. It was invented in the days when English kings had a habit of trying their cases and deciding them without help—which made it mighty inconvenient for the poor devil who was so unspeakable as to have a dispute with a king. "By letting the jury decide the cases the king had to persuade all twelve men to agree before his victim could be declared guilty. Owing to the natural stubbornness of Englishmen, this made it very difficult to secure red-handed justice for royalty and the population of England increased in leaps and bounds. "As time went on, English kings abandoned the attempt to influence juries by such eloquent means as tying ropes around their necks, and they became quite free and untrammelled. Thus it is now necessary to persuade twelve men by nothing harder than soft words to think alike before any villain can be convicted or any injustice can be righted. Those who have gone out on the street and have attempted to get three men to agree on any one question can realize the difficulty of this job. "So long as there are men who still hold that the earth is square and other men who will stop when you say "Good morning" to them and debate the question for half an hour, juries will continue to sit up all night and to disagree in the morning, and men who have used the laws of the land for doormats will go on smiling in a bland and contented manner when they go on trial. "There is a growing feeling that in these days when every man owns his own opinion in fee simple and wants that opinion to be unique and original, the task of getting a unanimous vote from a jury is too great. It is like persuading twelve mules to trot forward in perfect step. If half of the people can declare war and fire Presidents, three-quarters of a jury ought to be able to convict a chicken thief or a trust maggot. Moreover, if three-quarters of a jury could run itself, the lawyer for the defense would not throw his hat up so high when he got one personal friend of the accused in the jury box."

We would analyze the man who wrote the above as being a man who had either suffered at the hands of a jury, or who has an instinctive dread of facing his fate at the hands of twelve men. It is possible however, that he has been raised in a community of men of easy virtue, who would sell their votes or allow themselves to bring a verdict against their oaths as jury men. He certainly does not know the

mind of the average jurymen. There are so many sides to every controversy that it is the jury is the palladium of human liberty—a protecting institution—under which no man can lose life, liberty or property without the unanimous consent of twelve impartial, independent men. As to a tendency to acquit, our observation is that if there is any leaning it is to conviction. The jury exercises its constitutional right to show mercy in too few cases. Even the Indians allowed a prisoner to run the gantlope. We had some county politics in town last week and, as predicted by this paper exclusively, there was excellent team work in the conventions. In the Democratic convention an effort to instruct for Dice for Congress failed, as they all rose up and said they did not want to be instructed. They said if the delegates had to go instructed, they might as well send in the vote on a postal card, and there were some who thought that the postal card system was better, but they let the delegates go untrammelled by instructions, and when they get down to the White Sulphur Springs among the summer boarders, they can disport themselves accordingly. Brother Summers McNeel, the county chairman, preached from Proverbs 4:13: "Take fast hold of instruction." But Brothers John McLaughlin, Uriah Hevener, Dr. McClintic, and some more of the pillars of the convention, replied from Proverbs 5:12: "How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof." So they put no bonds on them and let them go free. The convention instructed for Morton, from Webster, for State Senate, repaying an obligation of a similar kind four years ago. This Democratic convention was just a sort of a bye day and was not taken very seriously, but the Republican brethren had a big convention the next day, and everything passed off harmoniously with but one unpleasant incident, that of throwing the books into County Clerk Columbus J. McCarty, who was a candidate for re-election. There has never been a more diligent or painstaking clerk in the world than our friend McCarty, or a more accommodating one, and we have admired his industry and his struggle against the handicaps with which he has held office, and had thought his party could hardly get around giving him the nomination. But a brisk, energetic young man came out against him, and we suppose that in the convention the leaders thought with Lowell: "Soft-heartedness in times like these shows softness in the upper story." So they turned their thumbs down, and retired him to private life. It was really more of a caucus than convention anyway, as the total number of delegates was limited to thirty five and not all attended. It was what they would call a committee for public safety in the city. It was a great day for Edray and Huntersville districts. Greenbank got one nomination in Dr. Hull for the legislature. He is the leading Progressive of that district, and the Levels got many nomination. The convention adopted a plank out of the Baltimore democratic platform concerning the charging of tolls on the canal and exempting the shipping trust. We can say with all frankness that if they get as tired of this plank in the platform as we Democrats did, they will wish they had let it alone. On the day before the Democrats declared against the subsidy, and as a matter of fact, the delegates to both conventions know little or nothing about either canals or ships. We are told however that we have a small interest in the ownership of the canal, and none whatever in any sea going vessel, so we think that the Democratic position of tolls for revenue is better position for mountain men to take, than to present something of value to the owners of ships. It would be more reasonable for us to vote a bonus to automobiles, for that would help some indigent citizens who have the automobile fever, and cannot do without one. Or if it is a question of water, we might vote to give every fisherman a patent fishing rod which would help some of the very best persons in the community. Next Saturday, the Progressives will hold a ratification meeting. We do not like to go up against two columns on the ballot, but it is a kind of sour grape question.

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The Bar comes out with a clever article on the subject, "Are there too many lawyers?" It falls however to decide this question leaning a little to the opinion that there are too many for the good of the profession, and too few for the good of the public. It cites a case in one of the counties in this State, where the bar is above the average in numbers, where not a new case has been instituted in the circuit court for a period of five months. The Bar does not say what county it refers to. So far as any litigation that fattens and enhances the fortunes of lawyers is concerned Pocahontas county is practically in the same position as the county referred to. After many years of careful consideration of the matter of starting something that you cannot stop, we have come to the con-

clusion that much or little litigation in a community depends upon the consciences of the lawyers. They can either foment or discourage litigation. They can either make war or maintain peace. The peace and good order and honesty of a county depends more upon its leading lawyers than anything else. The law of the land is that no suit can be brought in a superior court without the signature of a lawyer who is an officer of the court. This is meant to prevent suits being brought in cases where there is no merit. It requires the prospective litigant to lay his troubles fully before a member of the bar, and of course the lawyer can fan the flame and encourage the man to engage in the fight, or he can counsel coolness and forbearance. The most effective and soundest advice that the lawyer can give to a man whose blood is up is that he wait a month and if he is in the same mind about suing at the end of that time to come back and the suit will be brought. There are many cases in which a man will have to sue as a relief for a deep seated sense of injury. It is some better to bring a suit than it is to run amuck and kill, burn and destroy. That he may have this vent for his feelings, is the prime object in affording a method of settling disputes by law suits. Opie Reed's old darkey threw a dollar in the river so he would have something else to worry about. A law suit ought not to be instituted lightly. The effect of it is to leave a deep and lasting impression upon the minds of the litigants. It causes darker musings than the close reading of such pessimistic journals as the Appeal to Reason and the Menace. No man ever watched the effect of a lawsuit closely without observing that it deeply affected the minds and character of those directly engaged in it. It has a tendency to embitter, aggravate, exasperate, and to stick in the gizzard until a third winner of the suit is a loser in more ways than one. It causes animosity, displeasure, bitter resentment, and wrathful indignation, hot blood, high words, and the gnashing of teeth. We believe that a party to a tearing down law suit is never the same man afterwards. The Bar says that China has no

# AUCTION SALE

## Tuesday, June 2nd

BEGINNING AT 9 A. M.

On the above date we will sell to highest bidder, at the HOTEL at CAMPBELL-TOWN, W. Va., the following property

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Consisting of iron bedsteads, mattresses, springs, bed clothing, chairs, stand tables, window blinds, lot of dishes table ware, sausage mill, coffee mills, and lots of other things everyone uses around the kitchen.

We will also offer at this Sale a Complete lot of CAMP EQUIPMENT such as

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This property belongs to the undersigned and will be sold to the highest bidder; terms made known on day of sale.

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C. J. RICHARDSON

Editor Times: I am always interested in the Times. I have been especially so in the Indian wars. Are you correct in locating Fort Dinwiddie in Highland? I think you will find it on or near Jacksons River nearly west of the Warm Springs. McAllister of the Warm Springs, discovered the site. I for a long time thought because the Dinwiddie place was in Highland county at Meadow Dale that the Fort must have been somewhere near. Hon. Joseph Wooddell, recently deceased, author of a history of Augusta was secretary for Fort Dinwiddie for a long time. He talked with me about it the last time I saw him.  
R. H. F. Hillsdale Station, Baltimore, Md.

- COUNTY COURT**  
Clerk, C. J. McCarty; Deputy, J. G. Hixon.  
Terms: First Tuesday of January and March and fourth Tuesday of June and September.
- ATTORNEYS.**  
4. M. LOCKRIDGE, Attorney-at-Law, Huntersville, W. Va. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal work.
- A. P. EDGAR, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Courts: Pocahontas and adjoining counties and the Supreme Court of Appeals.
- H. S. RUCKER, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.
- F. RAYMOND HILL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.
- N. C. McNEIL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the state of West Virginia.
- Andrew Price & T. S. McNeel  
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- W. A. SHATTON, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.
- L. M. McCLINTIC, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.
- H. L. VANBICKLER, Attorney-at-Law, Lewisburg, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Greenbrier and adjoining counties.
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